



Safe Sport Chair Report Illinois Swimming May 2019

Congratulations to Sterling Stingrays on achieving Safe Sport Recognition!

This past week information went out to all members regarding the new enhancements to the MAAPP (minor athlete abuse prevention plan.)

This plan addresses five main risk areas. Those areas are:

1. One-on-One Interactions
2. Travel: Local & Team
3. Social Media & Electronic Communication
4. Locker Rooms & Changing Areas
5. Massages & Rubdowns

For several years, USA Swimming has either required club policies, enacted national rules or recommended best practices in most of these areas. This means that MAAPP requirements should be familiar to USA Swimming members.

MAAPP will apply to all adults who interact with and have direct and frequent contact with minor athletes, including adult athletes. The language used in the policy is Applicable Adult. All Applicable Adults will be required to follow MAAPP.

Second, the Center requires regular and consistent training for all adults who interact with and have direct and frequent contact with minor athletes, including adult athletes. All USA Swimming non-athlete members regularly complete Safe Sport training, known as Athlete Protection Training. Now, all adult athlete members will also be required to complete Athlete Protection Training. All adult members—athlete and non-athlete—will be required to complete the training annually.

At its April 26, 2019 meeting, the USA Swimming Board of Directors reviewed and approved interim changes to USA Swimming rules related to MAAPP. Those same changes will be presented to the House of Delegates in September for permanent implementation.

Accordingly, by June 23, 2019, every USA Swimming member organization is required to update its policies to reflect MAAPP.

Over the next two months, leading up to the June 23 compliance date, USA Swimming will share the policy and education changes across multiple channels and our Safe Sport staff members are prepared to answer any questions you have.

MAAPP is provided in full at www.usaswimming.org/maapp. You will also find additional resources to assist you as you make these changes.

Athlete Protection Training Update

You will notice some changes this year to the USA Swimming required Athlete Protection Training (APT). The U.S. Center for SafeSport (“the Center”) is the separate, independent, organization that responds to reports of abuse in the Olympic and Paralympic movements. In addition to that responsibility, the Center also sets policies for national governing bodies (NGBs) such as USA Swimming to follow and provides educational tools and resources. As a policy, the Center is requiring every USA Swimming member or individual with authority over, or frequent contact with, athletes to annually complete its “Core Center for SafeSport Training” educational resource or its refresher course. The Core training is live on the USA Swimming LEARN platform. The new APT is good for 1 year.

Up Next: Central/Eastern Zone workshop May 17-19 in Chicago. I’m sure I’ll have more information regarding the updated MAAPP after that meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,
Melissa Healy
Safe Sport Chair